

# The Citizen

Vol. 42, No. 8

www.stuttgart.army.mil

## Engineer builds new life

DPW engineer Kamel Mourad followed his heart and moved from Egypt to Germany, where he built a new life.

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## Schools ready for registration

Parents and sponsors can register students for the upcoming school year April 23-25 at the Panzer Exchange.

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# U.S. Africa Command welcomes new commander

## U.S. Africa Command Public Affairs Office

**G**en. David M. Rodriguez assumed command of U.S. Africa Command from Gen. Carter F. Ham on April 5.

Rodriguez is AFRICOM's third commander since the command was established in 2008 to coordinate U.S. military relations and activities with African nations, regional organizations and the African Union.

Gen. Martin E. Dempsey, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, presided over the ceremony.

"[Gen. Rodriguez] is one of our nation's most highly regarded senior officers and strategic thinkers," Dempsey said during his remarks.

"At every level of command, in peace and war, he has proven his mettle.

"He is smart and decisive, he cares about the mission, but he also cares deeply about his people. With more than 36 years of experience, he knows the importance of building relationships and establishing trust," Dempsey said.

Dempsey praised Ham for leading

Africa Command since March 9, 2011, before an audience of more than 1,000 AFRICOM service members, civilian employees, and invited guests.

"You found new ways to deepen partnerships and to build capability.

"Your support has enabled African-led coalitions to tackle some of Africa's most complex challenges.

"And together, you have critically weakened Al-Shabaab, put the Lord's Resistance Army on the run, and helped beat back extremism in Mali," Dempsey said.

Dempsey added that AFRICOM's achievements are "the product of your principled and grounded leadership."

Ham, who traveled to 42 African nations during 101 trips to Africa, is retiring later this year.

The general has 39 years of service, including two years as an enlisted infantryman in the 82nd Airborne Division.

In his remarks, Ham said the day he took command he pledged to then Secretary of Defense Robert Gates that the command would "do our best each and every day to uphold the trust and confidence" of the nation.

See **AFRICOM** on page 4



Photo courtesy of U.S. Africa Command

*Gen. David M. Rodriguez assumed command of U.S. Africa Command from Gen. Carter F. Ham, April 5. Rodriguez is AFRICOM's third commander since the command was established in 2008 to coordinate U.S. military relations and activities with African nations, regional organizations and the African Union. Gen. Martin E. Dempsey, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, presided over the ceremony.*



## Marine 'might'

Arriving for a capabilities demonstration in Stuttgart, an MV-22B Osprey from the Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron 266 (Reinforced), II Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Lejeune, N.C., taxis the runway at Stuttgart Army Air Field March 28. The MV-22B Osprey has a unique tilt-rotor capability that allows it to fly twice as fast, twice as high, and six times farther than legacy medium-lift helicopters, while carrying three times more weight. For the story and more photos, see pages 10-11.

Marine Staff Sgt. Matt Lyman



# Building a 'Ready and Resilient' force

Commentary by

**Lt. Gen. Donald Campbell**

*U.S. Army Europe commander*

The Army recently rolled out its Ready and Resilient Campaign, a collection of comprehensive and far-reaching programs designed to guide the Army's efforts to build physical, emotional and psychological resilience in our Soldiers, families and civilians, and directly enhance personal and unit readiness.

This campaign brings a number of Army programs and activities under one umbrella, all aimed at preventing suicide, sexual harassment and sexual assault, bullying and hazing, substance abuse and domestic violence.

This campaign will also serve to improve methods for commanders to understand high-risk behaviors and

intervene early, something I expect all leaders to do. I encourage everyone to get familiar with the various services and programs available and take advantage of them; at the end of the day being ready and resilient is all about leadership and personal responsibility.

As April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month, I would like to take this opportunity to focus on Sexual Harassment/Assault Response and Prevention.

Sexual Assault is a serious problem facing the Army family; to combat this threat within our ranks U.S. Army Europe conducted a theater-wide Ready and Resilient Day focused on SHARP earlier this month.

The day reinforced our Army's commitment to eradicating sexual harassment and sexual assault through a comprehensive program that centers on awareness and prevention; training and education; victim advocacy; and response, reporting, accountability and program assessment.

As an Army that has grown as part of the profession of arms over the past 11 years of combat, leaders

*Eliminating sexual harassment and assault from our ranks ... is a mission that takes leadership and Soldiers who care about their buddies...*

and their teams at every level know how to get the mission done while caring for our fellow Soldiers on the battlefield.

Eliminating sexual harassment and assault from our ranks is no different; it is a mission that takes leadership and Soldiers who care about their buddies to accomplish this objective.

I expect leaders to stay engaged by getting to know their Soldiers individually and visiting the barracks frequently, so they may find solutions rather than simply reacting to indiscipline. I also expect leaders at every level to establish a command climate of trust and accountability; reinforce that command climate with continuous education and training; continue

to conduct assessments using tools available in order for sexual harassment, sexual assault prevention and response efforts to be successful.

This issue falls in line with one of my imperatives: discipline and standards. Discipline matters — how a Soldier looks and acts in a garrison environment directly translates to their performance in combat.

I hold leaders responsible for instilling the essence of our Army values and warrior ethos into their Soldiers so they are not just words on a card, but rather a way of life.

We must be disciplined and adhere to our Army values if we are to be the nations' trusted ambassadors to the American public, as well as our host nations here in Europe.

## THE CITIZEN

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**[www.preventsexualassault.army.mil](http://www.preventsexualassault.army.mil)**





# Stuttgart garrison highlights resiliency programs during USAREUR CG visit

Story and photo by Mark J. Howell  
USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs Office

U.S. Army Europe Commander Lt. Gen. Donald Campbell made his first visit to Stuttgart April 4 since his arrival to Germany last December.

The purpose of the visit was initially to attend the U.S. Africa Command change of command, but Campbell decided to arrive early to spend time with the U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart personnel to learn about local programs and best practices.

"I wanted to meet the team and dialogue with them about the great services they provide here," Campbell said.

During the visit, Campbell visited Panzer Kaserne, and Patch and Kelley Barracks to meet with garrison personnel on a variety of topics such as sponsorship, physical fitness and Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation programs.

The visit focused on programs that support themes associated with the Department of the Army's new "Ready and Resilient" campaign, which rolled out in March. The intent of the new program is in its name, ensuring readiness by strengthening resiliency, according to Campbell.

"The more we can do to promote resiliency, the better," said Campbell. "Stuttgart has a number of programs available to service members and their families that highlight this."

One program that Campbell was particularly interested in was the Stuttgart Warrior Pride Challenge, which he said he believed would be a fit for other garrisons in Europe. The program, a USAG Stuttgart Army Substance Abuse Program initiative, promotes resiliency and wellness through alcohol-

**"The more we can do to promote resiliency, the better."**

**Lt. Gen. Donald Campbell**  
*USAREUR commander*

free events that build social connections.

"I got a briefing on the program when I first arrived in Europe, but to talk to the people behind it and see the impact it's had on the community was very powerful," Campbell said.

Programs that emphasize resiliency are critical, as they support service members who have served in a period of prolonged combat operations in Iraq and Afghanistan for more than 12 years, added Campbell.

"As things are beginning to wind down, it gives us an opportunity to take a step back and look at what we can continue to do to support the great men and women who serve this country along with the families that support them," Campbell said.

Col. John P. Stack, the USAG Stuttgart commander, welcomed the opportunity to introduce Campbell to the garrison and its programs, and get a fresh perspective from senior leadership.

"He understands the mission of the garrison is challenging and requires teamwork to be successful," Stack said. "His guidance was to continue to work together and communicate with our installation partners to solve issues that arise."



**Lt. Gen. Donald Campbell, U.S. Army Europe commanding general, and Col. John P. Stack, U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart commander, pause to watch a youth taekwon do class during a visit to the Patch Fitness Center April 4. Campbell stressed the importance of family and youth programs as a key component of the Army's new "Ready and Resilient" campaign.**

## News & Notes

### *Services reinstate tuition assistance programs*

Department of the Army G-1 has reported that the GoArmyEd portal for tuition assistance was reactivated April 9.

Soldiers will now be able to request tuition assistance for the remainder of Fiscal Year 2013. The eligibility for TA and the annual caps (\$4,500 per year and \$250 per semester hour) remain unchanged.

The Air Force, Marine Corps and Coast Guard have also reinstated their programs after a congressional mandate in last month's FY 13 continuing resolution.

Earlier, officials from the Marine Corps, Coast Guard, Army and Air Force cut their respective tuition assistance programs because of sequestration.

The Navy was the only service not to suspend tuition assistance.

For more information on Army Tuition Assistance, visit [www.goarmyed.com](http://www.goarmyed.com), or call the Stuttgart Education Center at 431-2506/civ. 07031-15-2506.

### *Post Clean-up Week scheduled for April 22-26*

U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart will host a community-wide post clean-up week April 22-26, in conjunction with Earth Day.

To ensure maximum participation, the garrison is encouraging units to use as much time as possible during the week to police their work areas. This allows units the flexibility to schedule clean-up activities around mission requirements.

All housing residents are required to attend clean-up activities at their buildings April 22-26 between 1 p.m. and 4:30 p.m.

Since clean-up is scheduled during duty hours, residents should work with their supervisors and building coordinators to determine their availability so that schedules can be created.

Building coordinators will monitor participation and report no-shows to the garrison for sharing with other chains of command.

USAG Stuttgart Directorate of Public Works will provide trash bags and other cleaning materials to organizations and housing residents by request.

To receive these items, contact DPW Operations at 430-5450 or civ. 0162-297-6042.

### *Stuttgart Scoutmasters receive distinguished service award*

Stuttgart military community members John Cass, Scoutmaster for Boy Scout Troop 324 and Duke Whitten, Scoutmaster for Troop 154, recently received the Transatlantic Council's distinguished service award, the Silver Beaver Award, during the council's annual conference last month.

Cass and Whitten received the award for their hard work, self sacrifice, dedication and many years of service in the Scouting program.



# AFRICOM . . . .

*Continued from page 1*

"I report to you now that we have fulfilled that pledge. I depart the command confident that the women and men assembled here today and those deployed across the wide expanse of Africa, are indeed, moving forward together."

Ham said challenges remain ahead, "but I remain wholly confident that the Africa Command team, under Gen. Rodriguez's most capable leadership, will meet each and every one of those challenges with agility, imaginative thought and unselfish dedication."

Rodriguez comes to AFRICOM from Fort Bragg, N.C., where he was the commanding general of U.S. Army Forces Command.

Previously, he served as commander of the International Security Assistance Force Joint Command and deputy commander of U.S. Forces-Afghanistan from Nov. 12, 2009, to July 11, 2011.

Rodriguez is a 1976 graduate of the U.S. Military Academy at West Point and holds a Master of Arts in National Security and Strategic Studies from the U.S. Naval War College, and a Master of Military Arts and Science from the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College.

"It is a privilege and an honor to be here today and to take command of United States Africa Command," Rodriguez said. "Gen. Ham has done a tremendous job leading this command. I will continue this effort and work to build on the relationships that Gen. Ham has established with our African, European and all our international partners. These partnerships are essential to achieve our shared objectives."



## *A pitch for friendship*

**U.S. European Command Chief of Staff Maj. Gen. Mark Barrett throws the first pitch at the second annual German-American Friendship Fast Pitch Softball Tournament on Patch Barracks April 6. The competition gave 97 women from six teams an opportunity to build relationships while sharing the traditional American sport. The four German teams in the tournament were the Tübingen Hawks, Stuttgart Reds, Karlsruhe Cougars and Nagold Mohawks. The two American teams were the Stuttgart Select and Ramstein Royals. Each team played three games in the tournament, with the Ramstein Royals beating all three of their opponents.**

Marine Staff Sgt. Matt Lyman

# Sequester preparations await furlough announcement

**By Robert Dozier**

*U.S. Army Installation Management Command*

Employees will have to wait a bit longer to find out the details of their furlough, including the exact number of non-pay status days, as officials attempt to minimize the impact on mission and personnel.

The extensive planning and deliberations for the release of Notice of Proposed Furlough Letters to Army civilians have been stalled between Congressional action and White House budget proposals.

The reason for the delay is complex. On March 21, the Pentagon put off sending out notices to give officials time to review the Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act of 2013.

This continuing resolution put \$10 billion back in the budget, restored tuition assistance for military members and gave the services some flexibility in the application of the furloughs.

After a detailed review, the Defense Department revised the number of non-pay status days from 22 to 14 and delayed the start of furloughs until mid- to late June. Around 750,000 civilians had been facing a 20 percent reduction in pay for the remaining

weeks of fiscal year 2013.

Congressional approval of the defense appropriations bill late in March reduced the shortfall in the budget from \$46 to \$41 billion, taking some of the pressure off sequestration.

Overseas operations, however, are still the highest priority. Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel directed Deputy Defense Secretary Ashton Carter and Army Gen. Martin E. Dempsey, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, to conduct an intensive, department-wide review of how to protect the nation with fewer resources.

How budget cuts will affect readiness and the department's overall mission is of the utmost concern, according to secretary Hagel. "We will have to trade at some level and to some degree our future readiness for current operations," he said.

On April 2, Hagel announced he will voluntarily commit to a partial forfeiture of his pay during the furlough period, even though he is exempt as a political appointee. This gesture prompted other leaders, including the president of the United States, to make similar gestures of solidarity.

The White House released its 2014 budget proposal, including a \$526.6 billion defense base budget request, April 10. This budget adds more variables

***We will have to trade at some level and to some degree our future readiness for current operations.***

**Chuck Hagel**  
*Secretary of Defense*

to the process. Besides repealing the sequestration, President Obama's proposal addresses taxes and entitlement spending and calls for a new round of base realignment and closure.

Meanwhile, officials across the Army await the exact details and wording of the furlough communication.

The Department of the Army has requested an internal review to gauge the impact of both a seven-day furlough and no furlough; however, there is no decision to reduce the number of days below 14.

To accomplish a full 14-day non-pay status furlough, employees of the

U.S. Army Installation Management Command are expected to receive their notification letters starting on or about May 16.

Approximately 27,000 IMCOM employees will be notified directly by their supervisors under specific guidance from Assistant Secretary of the Army for Manpower and Reserve Affairs Thomas R. Lamont.

Once employees are notified, they will be required to acknowledge in writing their receipt of notification. Then they will have seven days to exercise their right to reply. Employees may appeal orally, in writing or both to the designated reply official.

Lt. Gen. Mike Ferriter, commander of IMCOM, has announced if furloughs occur, the headquarters will move to a four-day work week. Each garrison commander will make scheduling decisions locally in coordination with the senior commander.

Employees on garrisons under collective bargaining agreements should consult directly with their union officials for any updates.

Once final furlough decision notices are sent, employees may appeal their agency's decision to the Merit System Protection Board within 30 days from the effective date of the furlough.

## Temporary closure of Stuttgart Vet Clinic

The Stuttgart Veterinary Treatment Facility will be unavailable for appointments May 20 until June 2 due to relocation to a new facility in Building 2996 on Panzer Kaserne. The clinic will remain open to provide in and out-processing and reception services, however no veterinary services will be provided during this period.

The clinic strongly recommends customers stop by or call before May 20 to refill medications, update pet vaccinations, or to obtain the necessary paperwork to make a permanent change of station with a pet.

During the service outage, customers can use local off-post veterinary services or contact a military veterinarian at another installation for assistance.

For more information, call 431-2681/civ. 07031-15-2681.

## 'Fiddler on the Roof' performances

The Patch High School Drama Department presents "Fiddler on

the Roof, Jr." May 2-4 at 7 p.m. and May 4-5 at 2 p.m. in the Patch High School Forum.

Tickets are \$3 for students and \$5 for adults and can be purchased at the door.

For more information, email [Lindsey.Bagnaschi@eu.dodea.edu](mailto:Lindsey.Bagnaschi@eu.dodea.edu).

## Garrison facilities to close for holidays

The U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart Vehicle Registration and Housing offices will be closed May 1, 9 and 20 for German holidays. These offices will also be closed May 10 for a local national employee compensation day and May 27 for Memorial Day.

During these dates, other garrison facilities may have limited staffing and longer wait times. Customers are advised to call ahead before visiting.

## Safety Day April 26

U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart will hold a Safety Day April 26 with various activities and information stations from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Exchange on Panzer Kaserne.

For more information on Safety Day activities, call 431-3132/civ. 07031-15-3132.

## Get insurance information

Blue Cross Blue Shield representatives will be available to answer health insurance questions April 30 from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the Panzer Exchange lobby.

## Piranhas need coach

The Stuttgart Piranhas swim team is looking for a head coach for the 2013/14 swim season.

The coach would lead and develop approximately 100 swimmers ranging in age from 6 to 18 years.

For more information, email [velovina3@gmail.com](mailto:velovina3@gmail.com) or call civ. 0175-204-9348.

## USO Stuttgart news

The United Service Organizations mobile canteen will serve free hot dogs from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Kelley Commissary April 26 and during the Spring Fest at the Patch Fitness Center April 27.

For more USO activities, visit [www.uso.org/stuttgart](http://www.uso.org/stuttgart).

## Resume class for volunteers April 30

Army Community Service will offer a free class on how to include volunteer experience in resumes

April 30 from 9-11 a.m. at Building 2915 on Panzer Kaserne.

For more information, call 431-3362/3363 or civ 07031-15-3362/3363.

## Due to PCS soon?

For those who plan to relocate, permanent change of station/pre-separation briefings will be held at 1 p.m. in Building 2913 on Panzer Kaserne on May 15, June 19 and July 17.

All service members and civilians departing within the next four to five months should attend. Advance registration is required.

Agency representatives from Transportation, Customs, the health and dental clinics, Tricare, Vehicle Registration, Housing and Army Community Service will provide PCS information.

Army personnel will also receive a briefing on finance issues. All separating Army personnel must attend this briefing to receive pre-separation information.

To sign up, call 431-2599/civ. 07031-15-1599.

Send your announcements to [stuttgartmedia@eur.army.mil](mailto:stuttgartmedia@eur.army.mil).

## Are taxes making you crazy?



The Stuttgart Tax Center offers free tax assistance on a walk-in basis.

Monday-Friday  
9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Room 231, Building 3312  
Kelley Barracks

For details call 421-4588 or civ. 0711-729-4588

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# Egyptian civil engineer follows heart, builds new life

Story & photo by Carola Meusel  
USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs Office

Most people think of garrison local national employees as being German. But of the approximately 500 U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart local nationals, many were born outside the borders of the Federal Republic of Germany: in Italy, Turkey, Croatia, Austria, France, Greece, and Eritrea, for example.

Kamel Mourad, a civil engineer with the U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart Directorate of Public Works Engineering Branch, was born and raised in Tanta, Egypt.

Love and religion brought him to Germany.

While studying civil engineering at Cairo University, Mourad met a young Egyptian girl who was visiting relatives in Cairo. Sylvia Moussad's family had emigrated from Cairo to Stuttgart where her father, a medical doctor, worked at the Robinson Barracks Health Clinic and the Bad Cannstatt Hospital.

It was love at first sight, according to Mourad. They courted long distance for five years. Meanwhile, Mourad served in the Egyptian army and then worked in Abu Dhabi.

That's the love part — a sweet and tender story. His other reason for coming to Germany is not.

Egypt is a Muslim country, and Mourad is a Coptic Orthodox Christian.

According to Amnesty International, human rights organizations, over time, have documented a pattern of discrimination against Coptic Christians in Egypt.

As a Copt, Mourad said he repeatedly experienced discrimination. He eventually came to the realization that life might be better elsewhere.

"That's when I decided to leave Egypt and work somewhere else," Mourad said. "Since I already knew my [future] wife, Germany clearly became an option."

In 1979, Mourad arrived in Germany, married Sylvia and, in February 1980, started to work for the Building and Grounds Division of the Directorate of Engineering and Housing, today's Directorate of Public Works, at Grenadier Kaserne in Zuffenhausen. At the time, the directorate was part of VII Corps, headquartered on Kelley Barracks.

Mourad was responsible for maintenance and



**Kamel Mourad, a local national civil engineer with U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart's Directorate of Public Works Engineering Branch (right), talks to construction workers on Kelley Barracks Feb. 14. Mourad started working for the U.S. Forces in Stuttgart in 1980 and completed 33 years of service in February.**

repair projects in administrative and family housing facilities in Stuttgart, Aschaffenburg, Heilbronn, Würzburg, Munich and Garmisch.

Even though he was adjusting to Germany and a new job with the U.S. military, he enjoyed working for the Americans right away.

"I felt that it was easy to work for and with Americans. They were always friendly, open and you could talk to them on first name basis. Nothing was ever complicated," Mourad said. "The American mentality is close to my own."

Culturally, Mourad adjusted to western-world values seamlessly.

He recalls a situation when he was asked by a former female boss if it was a problem for him, as an Egyptian, to work for a woman.

"Of course I answered 'no.' Political or religious opinions have nothing to do with professional life," Mourad said.

In 1992, when VII Corps left Stuttgart, Mourad relocated from Grenadier Kaserne to Kelley Barracks to oversee the job order contract at the 6th Area Support Group's (now USAG Stuttgart) Construction Division.

His work included cost estimates on renovation and construction projects, design, and planning and executing construction contracts and agreements.

"This is what I am doing today as a program manager," Mourad said. "It is an all-around job and I truly like the challenges that come with it. I am lucky to consider my job as a hobby," he added.

Mourad also functions as an interface between the U.S. Forces and German agencies, such as the Baden-Württemberg State Construction Office, on German construction procedures that the U.S. military must follow.

He is fond of the good working relationships.

"We work as a family here. Whether we're German, American or of any other nationality we always help each other out," he said.

One of his projects included the renovation of Kelley Barracks' Building 3314, the home of U.S. Africa Command.

Mourad refers to the AFRICOM headquarters as "his" building since he designed and planned it. "I know every nail and corner of that building," he said.

During his career, he has been involved with renovations of facilities across all five Stuttgart military installations, to include the Clay House, the residence of the senior U.S. military officer in Stuttgart before it was returned to the state of Baden-Württemberg in 2012.

"Every building is different, that's what makes the job interesting and lively," he added.

And throughout his career, he said he has always enjoyed the ever-changing structure of the military community.

"First, I started to work for the VII Corps, then for the 6th Area Support Group and now for USAG Stuttgart, to include the U.S. European Command and AFRICOM," Mourad said. "I am 65 years old and still experience something new every day."

*I am 65 years old  
and still experience  
something new  
every day.*

**Kamel Mourad**  
DPW civil engineer

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Estate claims

Anyone with any claims on or obligations to the estate of Sgt. 1st Class Emmanuel Lorenzo of Headquarters, U.S. European Command, should contact the summary court officer, Capt. Thomas Feusi, at 430-5067/civ. 0711-680-5067.

AVID applications for next school year now available

Advancement Via Individual Determination applications for the next school year (2013-2014) may be picked up from the Patch High School front office.

AVID is a college preparatory academic elective for above-average students who are not working to their full potential.

To qualify for AVID, a student must have a grade point average of 2.0-3.5; above average standardized test scores; a completed interview;

a signed contract committing to preparation for college; teacher recommendations, and plans to take honors/advanced placement courses.

For more information, call Claire Dickmeyer, AVID coordinator, at 430-7191/civ. 0711-680-7191 after 3 p.m.

EUCOM volunteer internships available

Headquarters, U.S. European Command, is accepting applications for the EUCOM Volunteer Internship Program.

Although all applications will be accepted for review, this initial call for applications is intended for command-sponsored dependents who reside in the Stuttgart area.

For more information, go to [www.eucom.mil/intern](http://www.eucom.mil/intern), or contact Trevor Boyko, the EVIP manager at 430-5793/civ. 0711-680-5793 or send an email to [trevor.j.boyko.civ@mail.mil](mailto:trevor.j.boyko.civ@mail.mil).

RSVP by May 20 for PHS baccalaureate

The Patch High School Senior Class of 2013 will be honored with a baccalaureate service at the Patch Chapel June 2 from 3-5 p.m.

The baccalaureate planning committee asks that those wishing to attend RSVP by May 20 to [PHS2013Baccalaureate@gmail.com](mailto:PHS2013Baccalaureate@gmail.com).

Sign up for ACS Culture College

Get introduced to German customs, culture, public transportation and local landmarks during the U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart Army Community Service Culture College to be held April 23 and 25, May 7 and 9, and May 21 and 23.

The first day consists of a classroom session, and is followed by a Stuttgart city tour on Thursday.

Child care is available. Sign up at ACS, Building 2915, Panzer Kaserne.

For more information, or to register, call ACS at 431-3362/civ. 07031-15-3362.

Fuel cards expire

Esso fuel cards are like any other debit or credit card and have an expiration date.

To avoid an interruption in service or the substantial cost of paying the economy fuel purchase price, check the expiration date on the lower right hand corner and verify the month and year of expiration.

If your card has expired, return to a fuel card issuing location where the Exchange will replace your card.

Fuel cards are valid for three years, and the expiration dates are not related to your vehicle registration date.

AAFES does not send out reminders to customers in advance of their fuel card expiration dates.

Send your announcements to [stuttgartmedia@eur.army.mil](mailto:stuttgartmedia@eur.army.mil).

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Army Earth Day

Earth Day is an international event that demonstrates concern and mobilizes support for the environment. Over the past 43 years, the Army has joined the nation in celebrating Earth Day on April 22.

This year, the Army's Earth Day theme is:  
**Acknowledge the past** — by restoring Army lands to usable condition and by preserving cultural and historical resources.

**Engage the present** — by meeting environmental standards, enabling Army operations and protecting Soldiers, families and communities.

**Chart the future** — by institutionalizing best practices and use of technology to ensure future environmental resiliency.

This commitment belongs to every member of the Army team. Success requires that everyone do their part.



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# Area schools to hold registration for upcoming school year April 23-25

## USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs Office

Stuttgart Department of Defense Dependents Schools-Europe will hold registration for the 2013-2014 school year at the Panzer Exchange April 23-25. School will start Aug. 27.

“The early registration assists the schools with their planning processes. It allows school officials to identify any additional resources that may be needed, such as space, furniture and teachers,” said Brian Pappas, a school liaison officer for U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart.

“It also eases the process of school registration for parents and families by giving them the opportunity to register their children for school, apply for bus transportation, meet with the nurse and counselors — all in one location,” Pappas said.

Parents and sponsors can register students on April 23 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., with the last packet to be handed out at 4:30 p.m. On April 24-25, registration is from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. The last packet will be given out at 3 p.m.

Pappas said that the busiest times tend to be the lunch hour and late afternoon, so mornings may be the best time to attend.

Last year, 86 percent of the eligible student population registered during the early registration event. The goal this year is 90 percent, according to Pappas.

To register their children, sponsors should

### What to bring

To register your child for kindergarten, your child must be 5 years old on or before Sept. 1, 2013. Bring:

- Birth Certificate
- Immunization Record
- Copy of assignment orders

To re-register your student for next school year, bring:




- Copy of assignment orders
- Extension of orders, if applicable
- Immunization Records
- Birth Certificate

bring copies of orders (and extensions to orders, if applicable), birth certificate, updated emergency contact information and immunization records.



To help school officials determine the school zone, sponsors should also bring the physical address of their residence, housing contract or the assignment to housing letter, and bus registration, if applicable.





For more information, contact Wayne “Joe” Holder or Brian Pappas at the School Liaison Office, 430-7465/civ. 0711-680-7465.

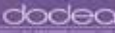

Celebrating the Month of the  
**MILITARY CHILD**



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DODEA joins the Defense Department and the military community in celebrating April as the Month of the Military Child.

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## What's happening in FMWR

### RB Fun Day

Family and MWR will host a free Family Fun Day with bouncy castles, games, face painting and more April 26 at 3 p.m. at Building 151 on Robinson Barracks.

For more information, call 430-7480/civ. 0711-680-7480.

### Spring Fest at Patch Barracks

Child, Youth and School Services will host a Spring Fest at the Patch Barracks Youth Center and Fitness Center April 27 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The event includes free food, face painting, games, pony rides, a sports obstacle course, information booths, a "Kidz Only" flea market (from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.) and the Stuttgart Amazing Race teen edition at 9:30 a.m. A family cook-off will begin at noon.

For more information, call 430-7480/civ. 0711-680-7480.

### Swing into spring

The Stuttgart Golf Course in Kornwestheim hosts a Spring Scramble May 4. The four-person team event starts at 9 a.m.

The entry fee, which includes greens fee, golf cart, prizes and food, is \$40 for members and \$50 for non-members.

For more information, call civ. 07141-879-150.

### Arts, crafts contest

Novice and accomplished artists are invited to enter the garrison-level 2013 Army Arts and Crafts Contest.

Entries are due by May 4. Guidelines and entry forms are online at [www.stuttgartmwr.com](http://www.stuttgartmwr.com) and at the arts and crafts centers on Patch and Kelley Barracks.

For more information, call 430-5270/civ. 0711-680-5270.

### Be "King of the Hill"

The Galaxy Bowling and Entertainment Center on Panzer Kaserne will host a King of the Hill bowling tournament April 20. Registration starts at noon. Bowling begins at 1 p.m.

For more information, call 431-2575/civ. 07031-15-2575.

For more activities, go to the USAG Stuttgart Family and MWR website at [www.stuttgartmwr.com](http://www.stuttgartmwr.com).



## Coming to Patch Theater

**April 19** — G.I. Joe: Retaliation 3-D (PG-13) 6 p.m., Oblivion (PG-13) 8 p.m.

**April 20** — The Croods 3-D (PG) 2 p.m., Safe Haven (PG-13) 5 p.m., Oblivion (PG-13) 8 p.m.

**April 21** — G.I. Joe: Retaliation 3-D (PG-13) 2 p.m., Oblivion (PG-13) 5 p.m., Safe Haven (PG-13) 8 p.m.

**April 22** — Oz: The Great and Powerful 3-D (PG) 6 p.m.

**April 23** — Closed

**April 24** — Safe Haven (PG-13) 6 p.m.

**April 25** — G.I. Joe: Retaliation

3-D (PG-13) 6 p.m.

**April 26** — Olympus Has Fallen (R) 6 p.m., The Big Wedding (R) 9 p.m.

**April 27** — The Croods 3-D (PG) 2 p.m., Safe Haven (PG-13) 4:30 p.m., The Big Wedding (R) 7 p.m.

**April 28** — The Croods 3-D (PG) 2 p.m., Safe Haven (PG-13) 4:30 p.m., The Big Wedding (R) 7 p.m.

**April 29** — A Good Day to Die Hard (R) 6 p.m.

**April 30** — Closed

For more movies and updates, go to [www.shopmyexchange.com](http://www.shopmyexchange.com).



In the film adaptation of Nicholas Sparks' "Safe Haven," Katie (Julianne Hough) starts a new life in a small town in North Carolina and finds herself reluctantly attracted to Alex (Josh Duhamel) who helps her confront her past.

TriStar Pictures

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## Marines thunder through Stuttgart skies

By Sgt. Tatum Vayavananda  
U.S. Marine Corps Forces, Europe and  
Africa Public Affairs Office

In coordination with U.S. Marine Corps Forces Europe and U.S. Marine Corps Forces Africa, members of U.S. European Command, U.S. Africa Command, and U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart had “hands-on” experiences with the MV-22B Osprey during a capabilities exercise on Patch Barracks, Kelley Barracks, and Stuttgart Army Air Field March 28. The MV-22B Ospreys visited from the Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron 266 (Reinforced), 26th Marine Expeditionary Unit, II Marine Expeditionary Force, based out of Camp Lejeune, N.C.

Part of the event was to introduce the MV-22B Osprey, which is a recent addition to the Marine Corps’ aviation inventory, to the EUCOM and AFRICOM combatant commands.

“The MV-22B brings new capabilities to the EUCOM theater. It’s important that our team understands the nuances of these capabilities as we begin to integrate

this versatile aircraft into contingency and response plans,” said Vice Adm. Charlie Martoglio, EUCOM deputy commander. “These aircraft will be a tremendous asset as we work to protect American and allied interests,” he added.

For the exercise, three MV-22B Ospreys flew from an amphibious assault ship on the Atlantic Ocean, past Rota, Spain, to Stuttgart without having to land; a total of 1,400 nautical miles.

“I think it’s the future of how we’re going to provide medium-lift assault support in many ways,” said Lt. Col. Chris J. Boniface, the commanding officer of VMM-266, 26th MEU, II MEF. “It’s very important that we demonstrate this capability that the Marine Corps brings to the commands in the assault-support realm,” said Boniface, a Enterprise, Ala., native.

The MV-22B Osprey is a multi-engine, dual-piloted, self-deployable, medium-lift, vertical-takeoff and landing, tilt-rotor aircraft designed for combat support and special-operations missions. It combines the functionality of a helicopter with the performance of a turbo-prop aircraft.

“It’s the only airplane that can do everything a helicopter can,” said Capt. E. B. Kolle, an MV-22B pilot, VMM-266, 26th MEU, II MEF. “It has proven in the last several years that it is a good choice,” added the Raleigh, N.C., native.

The MV-22B represents new capabilities in the region and can provide Marine Forces Europe and Marine Forces Africa a unique asset supporting their mission to respond to crisis, build partner-nation military capacity, promote regional security, and maintain a stabilization presence as directed by EUCOM and AFRICOM to protect U.S. national security interests.

“It takes the Mediterranean Sea, for example, and turns it into a lake,” said Kolle regarding the rapid travelling capability of the MV-22B.

“Before, if a MEU wanted to reach an area, they would have to bring the ships closer to that region and deploy helicopters. Now, with the MV-22B, you can have a MEU floating in Spain and have troops at the other end of the Mediterranean the same day,” Kolle said.

“If AFRICOM and EUCOM are going to have MV-22Bs in their areas of responsibility, it’s important to know how to employ these assets in the event that something happens,” added Kolle.

Within the EUCOM and AFRICOM areas of responsibility, most bilateral and multi-lateral exercises with allied and partner nations could be supported with combat-proven air support provided by the MV-22B, while other aircraft, such as the C-130 Hercules cargo plane, which requires a run-way for takeoff and landing, would prove less effective.

“I think the capabilities to fly as fast as far as we can is significant in this area,” said Cpl. Justin J. Whiteman, an MV-22B crew chief, VMM 266, 26th MEU, II MEF.

To demonstrate the versatile landing capability of the MV-22B, two aircraft flew from Stuttgart Army Air Field, with one landing on Kelley Barracks, and the other landing on Patch Barrack’s Husky Field.

“We can do 280 knots and put troops



into a variety of landing terrains and conditions; unpaved areas, mountain sides, dusty zones. Airplanes and helicopters just can't do that," said Whiteman, a Lancaster, Penn., native.

"I think it's critical for quick-response teams to be able to get to places that are great distances apart, and the MV-22B is just that; quick response," Whiteman said.

The aircraft, which reached its initial operation capability in 2007, has proven its operational efficacy with its ability to fly twice as fast, carry three times the payload, go twice as high, and travel almost five times the distance of other legacy medium-lift helicopters.

"The Osprey provides an awesome capability," said Boniface, the commanding officer of VMM-266, 26th MEU, II MEF. "It can aerial refuel, climb up to 25,000 feet; it does anything the commander needs it to, from embassy reinforcement to tactical recovery of personnel missions and raids."

The MV-22B replaces the Marine Corps' CH-46 "Sea Knight" helicopter's role in functioning as the Marine Corps' amphibious assault transport of troops, equipment and supplies, between sea and land.

Main photo by Staff Sgt. Matt Lyman

*An MV-22B Osprey assigned to the Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron 266 (Reinforced), 26th Marine Expeditionary Unit, II Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Lejeune, N.C., approaches the Stuttgart Army Air Field to prepare for a capabilities demonstration. The MV-22B Osprey has a unique tilt-rotor capability that allows it to fly twice as fast, twice as high, and six times farther than legacy medium-lift helicopters, while carrying three times more weight.*



Marine Sgt. Tatum Vayavananda

*An MV-22B Osprey from Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron 266 (Reinforced), 26th Marine Expeditionary Unit, II Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Lejeune, N.C., demonstrates its versatile landing capability by landing on Kelly Barracks' Cooper Field.*



Marine Sgt. Tatum Vayavananda

*Members of the Stuttgart military community get a close look at an MV-22B Osprey from Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron 266 (Reinforced), 26th Marine Expeditionary Unit, II Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Lejeune, N.C., while it is staged on Kelley Barracks March 28.*



Marine Sgt. Tatum Vayavananda

*After a capabilities exercise at Kelley Barracks, Cpl. Justin J. Whiteman, a crew chief of Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron 266 (Reinforced), 26th Marine Expeditionary Unit, II Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Lejeune, N.C., looks down on the city of Stuttgart.*



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